



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Application No: GB 0327401.6  
Claims searched: 1-20

Examiner: Ross Maclachlan  
Date of search: 2 March 2004

## Patents Act 1977 : Search Report under Section 17

### Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance	
X	1-4, 6, 9-13, 15, 18 at least	US 2818131 A	(DOUGHTY) See figs. 1-6 and col. 1 line 61 to col. 2 line 6, noting three embodiments, particularly figs. 5 and 6, showing bimetallic strip 46 responding to muffler temperatures so that aperture 24 is open when the engine is idle, allowing drainage of condensates.
X	1-4, 6, 7, 9-13, 16, 18 at least	US 4527659 A	(J. I. CASE CO.) See figs. 2-7 and col. 1 line 58 to col. 2 line 3, noting bimetallic strip valve member 26 opening to allow moisture to flow from drainhole 24 when the engine is not operating.
X	1, 10 at least	US 4428453 A	(YUEN) See figs. 1-4, noting drain plug 6 which can be unscrewed to allow draining of condensates from silencer chamber 1.
X	1, 10 at least	DE 20301008 U1	(WINTERLICH) See figs. 1-2 and WPI Abstract Accession No. 2003-423017 [40] noting exhaust silencer 1 having outlet device 4 which can be released to evacuate condensate water.

### Categories:

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

### Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKC<sup>W</sup>:

F1B

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC<sup>7</sup>:

F01N

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this report:



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Online: OPTICS, EPODOC, WPI, PAJ